

2020 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL: INDIE EPISODIC, SHORTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS ANNOUNCED

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

8 Episodic Works, 74 Short Films, 9 Special Events Join Festival Slate



***A Love Song for Latasha**, photo by Sophia Nahli Allison; **Takoyaki Story**, courtesy of Sundance In Steve James; **Awkward Family Photos**, photo by Rich Schaefer; **Hillary**, courtesy of Sundance Institute.*

Park City, UT â?? Works selected across the Indie Episodic, Shorts and Special Events sections of the 2020 Sundance Film Festival were announced today, underlining Sundance Instituteâ??s commitment to showcasing bold independent storytelling regardless of form, format or length.

Kim Yutani, the Festivalâ??s Director of Programming, said, â??Authenticity and independent voices resonate across formats â?? and thatâ??s evident across the full spectrum of this yearâ??s Indie Episodic and Special Events slates. Defined by distinctive voices and enlightening viewpoints, these are riveting projects that find inspiration in the urgent stories and extraordinary individuals of our times.â?•

Mike Plante, Senior Programmer, Shorts, said, â??With an unprecedented number of 10,397 submissions, we had so many great shorts to choose from. It is thrilling to share so many unique visions and new talents from the burgeoning world of shorts.â?•

Of the projects announced today, 48% were directed or created by one or more women, 33% were directed or created by one or more filmmaker of color, and 19% by one or more people who identify as LGBTQIA. 7 were supported by Sundance Institute in development, whether through direct granting or Labs.

74 short films will screen at the Festival from 27 countries and chosen from 10,397 submissions â?? 4,992 from the U.S. and 5,405 international. The Instituteâ??s support for short films extends internationally and year-round, with select Festival shorts presented as a traveling program at seventy-five theaters in the U.S., Canada and Europe each year, and short films and filmmakers taking part in regional Master Classes geared towards supporting emerging shorts-makers in several cities. Among the shorts the Festival has shown in recent years are *Fauve*, *Aziza*, *Ghosts of Sugar Land*, *Thunder Road, Whiplash* and *The Tsunami and the Cherry Blossom.* The 2020 Sundance Film Festival Short Film program is presented by Southwest Airlines.

INDIE EPISODIC
A dedicated showcase for emerging creators of independently produced episodic content for broadcast, web, and streaming platforms. Past projects that have premiered within this category include *Work in Progress, State of the Union, Wu Tang Clan: Of Mics and Men* and *Quarter Life Poetry*.

Awkward Family Photos / U.S.A. (Director: William Kirkley, Executive Producers: Mike Bender, Doug Chernack, William Kirkley, Paris Kassidokostas-Latsis, Terry Dougas, Jean-Luc De Fanti) â?? A hilarious, odd, and heartfelt exploration of the imperfect family experience. The families behind some of the most viral photos from the archives of AwkwardFamilyPhotos.com tell their unique stories and reunite to recreate their original photos, forcing them to reconcile their past and celebrate their awkwardness. *World Premiere*

Chemo Brain / Denmark (Director: Kristian HÃ¥skjold, Screenwriters: Kristian HÃ¥skjold, Johan Wang) â?? When Oliver is diagnosed with testicular cancer, his life is turned upside down. This lighthearted drama-series depicts the derailment of a young man that is doing everything he can to not lose his friends, his girlfriend, himself, and ultimately his life. *Cast: Adam Ild Rohweder, Karoline Brygmann, Jens JÃ¸rn Spottag, Mads Reuther, Stephanie Nguyen, Mathilde Passer. International Premiere*

City So Real / U.S.A. (Director: Steve James) â?? An impressionistic mosaic portrait of current-day Chicago which delivers a deep, multifaceted look into the soul of Americaâ??s third-largest city, set against the backdrop of its history-making 2019 mayoral campaign. *World Premiere*

Embrace / U.S.A. (Director: Jessica Sanders, Creators: Kathreen Khavari, Chuck Neal) â?? Against the backdrop of Oakland California, Iranian-American medical student Kat tries to save her Iranian family by taking on a surprising side hustle. The show is a culturally diverse, quasi-surrealist dramedy that captures the ever-increasing need for human connection and the subsequent commodification of it. *Cast: Kathreen Khavari, Eddie Huang, Mitra Jouhari. World Premiere*

Hey Lady! / Canada (Directors: Sarah Polley, Adriana Maggs, Will Bowes, Screenwriter: Morris Panych) â?? A fearlessly off-the-charts rampage of urban vengeance as senior-citizen Lady, along with

her friend Rosie, upturns everything in her pathâ??social norms, rules of etiquette, and even the series itself. *Cast: Jayne Eastwood, Jackie Richardson. World Premiere*

Laetitia / France (Director: Jean-Xavier de Lestrade, Screenwriters: Antoine Lacomblez, Jean-Xavier de Lestrade) â?? Eighteen-year-old Laetitia has disappeared. Police quickly arrest Tony Meilhon but investigators still canâ??t find the body. This story follows the repercussions for Laetitiaâ??s family and twin sister Jessica; the police force inner workings and social services; the judicial system and government itself. Based on real events. *Cast: Marie Colomb, Sophie Breyer, Yannick Choirat, Sam Karmann, Kevin AzÃ¯as, Noam Morgensztern. International Premiere*

The Ride / U.S.A. (Director: Linas Phillips, Executive Producers: Mark Duplass, Jay Duplass) â?? Wayne, a 40-year-old ride share driver and spiritual coach, recently moved back in with his mom and discovers the only thing that gives his life meaning is to help his passengers let go of their negative thoughts, whether they want his help or not. *Cast: Linas Phillips, Maria Thayer, Alex Karpovsky, Punkie Johnson, Joslyn Jensen, Timm Sharp. World Premiere*

Untitled Pizza Movie / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: David Shapiro) â?? How do you remember somebody in a disposable world? Weaving an abandoned film about pizza (NYC in the early 90s), a stunning, physical archive (thousands of objects) with a remarkable triple portrait, this series traces three lives over thirty years, three continents, and the faultlines of class, dreams, and memory. *World Premiere*

SPECIAL EVENTS

One-of-a-kind moments highlighting new independent works that add to the unique Festival experience. Past projects that have played in this category include *Lorena, Now Apocalypse, Wild Wild Country* and *Top of the Lake.*

Hillary / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Nanette Burstein) â?? A portrait of a public woman, interweaving moments from never-before-seen 2016 campaign footage with biographical chapters of Hillary Rodham Clintonâ??s life. Featuring exclusive interviews with Hillary herself, Bill Clinton, friends, and journalists, an examination of how she became simultaneously one of the most admired and vilified women in the world. *World Premiere*

LANCE / U.S.A. (Director: Marina Zenovich, Producers: Marina Zenovich, P.G. Morgan) â?? This deeply personal examination of one of the worldâ??s most controversial figures examines a man whoâ??s both winner and loser, saint and sinner. With unprecedented access to Lanceâ??s world, this psychological portrait is a powerful study of that 21st century phenomenon: the celebrity who falls spectacularly and publicly from grace. *World Premiere*

Leap of Faith: William Friedkin on the Exorcist / U.S.A., Spain (Director: Alexandre O. Philippe, Producer: Kerry Deignan Roy) â?? A lyrical and spiritual cinematic essay on *The Exorcist*, and an exploration of the uncharted depths of William Friedkinâ??s mindâ??s eye, the nuances of his filmmaking process, and the mysteries of faith and fate that have shaped his life and filmography. *Cast: William Friedkin. North American Premiere*

Love Fraud / U.S.A. (Directors: Rachel Grady, Heidi Ewing, Executive Producer: Vinnie Malhotra, Amy Goodman Kass, Rachel Grady, Heidi Ewing) â?? Bigamy. Identity theft. Fraud. For the last 20 years Richard Scott Smith has used the internet and his dubious charms to prey upon unsuspecting women in

search of loveâ??conning them out of their money and dignity. But now his victims ban together and seek sweet revenge. *World Premiere*

Max Richterâ??s Sleep / United Kingdom (Director and screenwriter: Natalie Johns) â?? Following the composer as he navigates an ambitious performance of his acclaimed 8-hour opus. Centering around an open air concert in Los Angeles, alongside footage from Berlin, Sydney and Paris, we are plunged deep into the life and process of both the artist and his creative partner Yulia Mahr. *North American Premiere*

McMillions / U.S.A. (Directors: James Lee Hernandez, Brian Lazarte, Executive Producers: Mark Wahlberg, Stephen Levinson, Archie Gips, James Lee Hernandez, Brian Lazarte) â?? McMillions is the definitive, real-life account of the McDonaldâ??s Monopoly game scam, which defrauded the American public throughout the 1990s, as told by the â??prize winners,â?• criminals, government officials, and FBI agents, whom eventually took the crime ring down. *World Premiere*

Siempre, Luis / U.S.A. (Director: John James, Executive Producer: Michael Stolper) â?? Follow one single-minded immigrantâ??s improbable journey from Puerto Rico to the halls of power. Witness Luis Mirandaâ??s unflappable idealism as he battles his health, mobilizes the mainland Latinx community, matches wits with his youngest child applying to college and brings Hamilton to his island home, all in twelve months. *Cast: Luis Miranda, Lin-Manuel Miranda. World Premiere*

The Trade / U.S.A. (Director: Matthew Heineman, Executive Producers: Pagan Harleman, Matthew Heineman, Vinnie Malhotra, Joedan Okun) â?? A deeply personal and intimate portrait of human smuggling, sex trafficking, and the struggle to survive the migrant cycle between Central America and the United States. *World Premiere*

We Are Freestyle Love Supreme / U.S.A. (Director: Andrew Fried, Producers: Sarina Roma, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Thomas Kail, Jill Furman, Jon Steingart, Jenny Steingart) â?? Follow the 15-year journey of the founding members of the improv hip-hop group Freestyle Love Supreme, as they reflect upon why this show remains such an important piece of their personal, creative, and professional historyâ??from the basement of the Drama Bookshop in NYC to the Broadway stage. *Cast: Lin-Manuel Miranda, Thomas Kail, Anthony Veneziale, Christopher Jackson, Utkarsh Ambudkar, Chris Sullivan. World Premiere*

U.S. NARRATIVE SHORT FILMS

Arabian Alien / Saudi Arabia, U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Meshal Aljaser) â?? Saad, a Muslim married man, gets over his depression after a space Alien is introduced into his life. *World Premiere*

Baldwin Beauty / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Thembi Banks) â?? Farrah, new to LA, goes on the mobile styling app Get Glam, to find new clients. When she arrives at an appointment, she finds a house of girls pre-gaming for a party and maybe a new crew of friends.



Blocks / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Bridget Moloney) â?? An existential comedy about the mother of two young children who begins to spontaneously vomit plastic toy blocks. *World Premiere.*

Buck / U.S.A. (Directors and screenwriters: Elegance Bratton, Jovan James) â?? Caught in the throes of a depressive fugue, young Lynn resorts to debauchery to find joy â?? only to discover that happiness

is a much more complicated proposition. *World Premiere*

Dannyâ??s Girl / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Emily Wilson) â?? Danny meets his online girlfriend for the first time, but accidentally discovers her unspeakable possession, which throws their first night together into a dizzying tailspin. *World Premiere*

Dirty / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Matthew Puccini) â?? Marco cuts class to spend the afternoon with his boyfriend, Graham. Things do not go as planned. *World Premiere*

Heâ??s the One / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Jessie Kahnweiler) â?? A girl meets guy and falls head over heels, but a shocking discovery forces her to question everything. A dark comedy about falling in love with the one person youâ??re supposed to hate. *World Premiere*

How Did We Get Here? / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Michelle Miles) â?? A visual exploration of progressive atrophy. A study in how microscopic changes can go unnoticed, but amass over time. Even as these changes become drastic, we sometimes fail to realize anything has happened at all. *World Premiere*



ace) / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: ChloÃ© Aktas) â?? After a devastating breakup, Lance listens to instructional cassette tapes on how to heal his broken heart. *World Premiere.*

Little Chief / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Erica Tremblay) â?? The lives of a Native woman and a troubled young boy intersect over the course of a school day on a reservation in Oklahoma. *World Premiere*

Meats / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Ashley Williams) â?? A pregnant vegan struggles with her newfound craving for meat. *World Premiere*

Meridian / U.S.A., Italy (Director and screenwriter: Calum Walter) â?? Footage transmitted by the last unit in a fleet of autonomous machines is sent to deliver an emergency vaccine. The film follows the machine before its disappearance, tracing a path that seems to stray further and further from its objective.

Pillars / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Haley Elizabeth Anderson) â?? After seeing a boy she likes before church, Amber sneaks out to the Sunday school bathroom during the service and is given her first kiss. *World Premiere*

Place / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Jason Gudasz) â?? Wanting a fresh start, Lauren moves into a house with her daughter and new boyfriendâ??but the spirits of the house have plans to turn them all against each other in very bizarre ways.

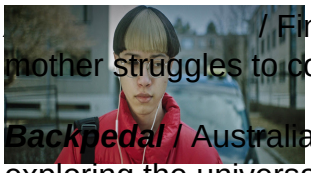
Ship: A Visual Poem / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Terrance Daye) â?? A black boy learns contradicting lessons of manhood and masculinity on the day of his cousinâ??s funeral.

T / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Keisha Rae Witherspoon) â?? A film crew follows three grieving participants of Miamiâ??s annual T Ball, where folks assemble to model R.I.P. t-shirts and innovative costumes designed in honor of their dead.

Three Deaths / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Jay Dockendorf) â?? Three strangers confront death in a modern interpretation of a Tolstoy short story. *World Premiere*

Valerioâ??s Day Out / Colombia, U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Michael Arcos) â?? A young jaguar goes on a killing spree when he escapes from his enclosure at a zoo. After heâ??s captured, sedated and relocated, he makes a video diary for his significant other, Lula.

INTERNATIONAL NARRATIVE SHORT FILMS



Backpedal / Australia (Director and screenwriter: Dani Pearce) â?? A collage of an American poem, exploring the universality of womanhood.

Bad Hair / Estonia (Director and screenwriter: Oskar Lehemaa) â?? Insecure and balding Leo has decided to try a mysterious hair growth liquid to fix up his looks. The liquid causes a series of grotesque metamorphoses, as Leo tries to get his bodily changes under control, the evening quickly turn into chaos.

Benevolent Ba / Malaysia, U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Diffan Sina Norman) â?? A devout womanâ??s lust for virtue thrusts her family into a sacrificial slaughter of biblical proportions. *World Premiere*

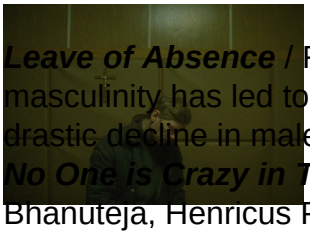
The Devilâ??s Harmony / United Kingdom (Director: Dylan Holmes Williams, Screenwriters: Dylan Holmes Williams, Jess Oâ??Kane) â?? A bullied teenage girl leads an a cappella club on a trail of destruction against her high school enemies.



Exam / Iran (Director: Sonia K. Hadad, Screenwriters: Sonia K. Hadad, Farnoosh Samadi) â?? A teenage girl gets involved in the process of delivering a pack of cocaine to its client, and gets stuck in a weird cycle of occurrences.

Former Cult Member Hears Music For The First Time / Norway, U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Kristoffer Borgli) â?? After a woman escapes the captivity of her abusive family, a magazine invites her to a journalistic experiment: to hear music for the first time. *World Premiere*

Iâ??ll End Up in Jail / Canada (Director and screenwriter: Alexandre Dostie) â?? A stay-at-home mom gets into a murderous car crash where nobody wants to take the blame. *U.S. Premiere*



Leave of Absence / Russia (Director and Screenwriter: Anton Sazonov) â?? In Russia, supressed masculinity has led to a feeling of unfulfillment as men feel that the country rejects them, leading to a drastic decline in male life expectancy. *North American Premiere.*
No One is Crazy in This Town / Indonesia (Director: Wregas Bhanuteja, Screenwriters: Wregas Bhanuteja, Henricus Pria)) â?? The owner of a big hotel orders Marwan and his team to remove mentally ill people from the city streets and cast them away in the forests. *North American Premiere*

Olla / France, United Kingdom (Director and screenwriter: Ariane Labed) â?? Olla has answered an ad on a dating website for Eastern European women. She moves in with Pierre, who lives with his old mother, but nothing goes as expected.

Paola Makes A Wish / Switzerland (Director and screenwriter: Zhannat Alshanova) â?? On an ordinary day at work, Paola starts to feel that she is missing out something exciting in her life. *U.S. Premiere*

Pattaki / Cuba (Director: Everlane Moraes, Screenwriter: Tatiana Monge Herrera) â?? In the dense night, when the moon rises, those who live in a monotonous daily life without water are hypnotized by the powers of Yemaya, the goddess of the sea. *U.S. Premiere*

Regret / Canada (Director and screenwriter: Santiago Menghini) â?? Following the death of his father, a man must survive the manifestations of his inner demons over the course of a dreary night. *World Premiere*

Sadla / South Africa (Director and screenwriter: Zamo Mkhwanazi) â?? While going on a simple errand, Nathiâ??s journey is marked by disturbing interactions with authority. But is he an innocent victim? *U.S. Premiere.*

So What If The Goats Die / France, Morocco (Director and screenwriter: Sofia Alaoui) â?? Abdellah, a young shepherd living in the mountains, is forced to brave the snow blocking him in order to get food and save this cattle. Once he gets to the village, he faces a supernatural phenomenon. *World Premiere*

Song of Clouds / Nepal (Director and screenwriter: Ankit Poudel) â?? A haunting visual fever dream, and a meditation on the afterlife; the journey to the next world, and what gets left behind among the living. *World Premiere*

Sticker / Macedonia (Director and screenwriter: Georgi M. Unkovski) â?? After an unsuccessful attempt to renew his car registration, Dejan falls in a bureaucratic trap that tests his determination to be a responsible father. *North American Premiere*

A Thousand Sails / Hong Kong (Director and screenwriter: Hing Weng Eric Tsang) â?? Ren promises to keep a secret for her neighborâ??s sonâ??a secret she can share with no one on the island. Her only refuge from sleepless nights is her deceased husband. *International Premiere*

DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILMS

Abortion Helpline, This Is Lisa / U.S.A. (Directors: Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater, Mike Attie) â?? At a Philadelphia abortion helpline, counselors answer nonstop calls from women who seek to end a pregnancy but canâ??t afford to. In this documentary we learn how economic stigma and cruel legislation determine who has access to abortion.

All That Perishes at the Edge of Land / Pakistan (Director: Hira Nabi, Screenwriters: Hira Nabi, Qurratulain Hyder) â?? A ship berthed at Gadani and the shipbreakers coming from all over Pakistan to break it discover that they might have more in common than otherwise imagined when they enter into a conversation.

Bereka / U.S.A., Ethiopia (Director and screenwriter: Nesanet Teshager Abegaze) â?? A family history archive as told by matriarch Azalu Mekonnen and her granddaughter Samira Hooks. Shot on Super 8

film in Los Angeles and Gondar, Ethiopia, capturing the Ethiopian coffee ceremony and explores migration, memory and rebirth.

Betye Saar: Taking Care of Business / U.S.A. (Director: Christine Turner) â?? At age 93, thereâ??s no stopping the legendary artist Betye Saar. *World Premiere*

Broken Orchestra / Canada, U.S.A. (Director: Charlie Tyrell) â?? The Symphony for a Broken Orchestra project collected hundreds of broken instruments from the Philadelphia public school system, fixed them and then returned them into the hands of students.

Character / U.S.A. (Director: Vera Brunner-Sung) â?? Actor Mark Metcalf made his reputation in Hollywood playing aggrieved authority figures. Now in his 70s, he takes a look back on his career in this meditation on power, privilege, and the perils of being a â??type.â?• *World Premiere*

Church and the Fourth Estate / U.S.A. (Director: Brian Knappenberger) â?? A reporter uncovers a file that reveals a shocking series of child abuse allegations in Idahoâ??s Boy Scouts, which rattle the community and implicate the Mormon church. The story reveals long-running crimes that threaten to bankrupt the Boy Scouts. *World Premiere*

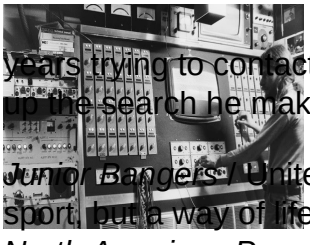
The Deepest Hole / U.S.A. (Director: Matt McCormick) â?? While the space and arms races are Cold War common knowledge, few know about the United States and Soviet Unionâ??s race to dig the deepest hole. This is particularly surprising since Hell may have been inadvertently discovered in the process. *World Premiere*

DÃa de la Madre / U.S.A. (Directors: Ashley Brandon, Dennis HÃ¶hne) â?? A band of juveniles embark on a 24-hour spree of breaking into houses and causing a ruckus. *World Premiere*

Do Not Split / U.S.A., Norway (Director: Anders Hammer) â?? The story of the 2019 Hong Kong protests, told through a series of demonstrations by local protestors that escalate into conflict when highly armed police appear on the scene. *World Premiere*

E-Ticket / Hong Kong, U.S.A. (Director: Simon Liu) â?? A frantic (re)cataloguing of a personal archive and 16,000 splices in the making. 35mm frames are obsessively rearranged in evolving-disorienting patterns, as a Danteâ??s Inferno for the streaming age emerges, illustrating freedom of movement for the modern cloud.

Guisado on Sunset / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Terence Nance) â?? Missed connection regret at that one late-night spotâ??the kind you keep playing back in your head but not quite ever remembering right, until it starts to look like something else. *International Premiere*



Contact Aliens / U.S.A. (Director: Matthew Killip) â?? John Shepherd spent 30 years trying to contact extraterrestrials by broadcasting music millions of miles into space. After giving up the search he makes a different connection here on earth. *World Premiere.*

Junior Bangers / United Kingdom (Director: Danny Lee) â?? In England, banger racing isnâ??t just a sport, but a way of life. Join 11-year-olds Finn and Harley on a cold winter race day in Birmingham. *North American Premiere*

Lichen / Canada (Director and screenwriter: Lisa Jackson) *â??* An otherworldly deep dive into the hidden beauty of lichens, asking what we might learn from them. Ancient and diverse, thriving in adversity, confounding scientists to this day, lichen is a model of emergence. *International Premiere*

A Love Song for Latasha / U.S.A. (Director: Sophia Nahli Allison) *â??* A dreamlike archive in conversation with the past and the present to reimagine a more nuanced narrative of Latasha Harlins by excavating intimate and poetic memories shared by her cousin and best friend.

Narcissister Breast Work / U.S.A. (Director: Narcissister) â?? Focusing on the exercise by women of their right to bare their breasts in public, this film is an investigation into how prohibitions on female toplessness are grounded in fear of, and desire to control, the female body. *World Premiere*

Now Is the Time / Canada (Director and screenwriter: Christopher Auchter) â?? On the 50th anniversary of the first new totem pole raising on British Columbiaâ??s Haida Gwaii in almost a century, we revisit the day that would signal the rebirth of the Haida spirit.

See You Next Time / U.S.A. (Director: Crystal Kayiza) â?? A window into the intimate moments shared across a nail salon table between a Chinese nail artist and her black client in Brooklyn, NY.

The Shawl / U.S.A. (Director: Sara Kiener) After years of long distance, a pair of big and beautiful boyfriends celebrate their reunion at a Stevie Nicks concert, where they share a brush with magic. *World Premiere*

The Starr Sisters / U.S.A. (Directors: Beth Einhorn, Bridey Elliott) â?? Patte and Randa Starr are fun specialists. After overcoming a dark past, these sisters are inseparable. Now in their 70s, they do exactly as they please and their candy drawer is always fully stocked.

While Iâ??m Still Breathing (Tandis Que Je Respire Encore) / France (Directors: Laure Giappiconi, Elisa Monteil, La Fille Renne, Screenwriter: Laure Giappiconi) â?? The blurred portrayal of a young woman as she moves through three steps of her sexuality. *North American Premiere*

ANIMATED SHORT FILMS

Daughter / Czech Republic (Director and screenwriter: Daria Kashcheeva) â?? Should you hide your pain, close yourself inside your inner world, and long for your fatherâ??s love? Or should you understand and forgive before itâ??s too late?

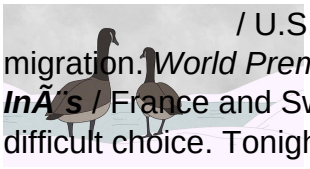
Daytime Noir / U.S.A. (Director: Jeron Braxton, Screenwriters: Jeron Braxton, Jay Ellis, Antonio Maclin) â?? A mother and sonâ??s journey through the exploitative world of tabloid TV. *World Premiere*

eadem cutis: the same skin / Germany (Director: Nina Hopf) â?? â??I just want to be seen as who I am today!â?• John shares his thoughts on identity, body and gender and gives a very personal insight into his lifeâ??and an intimate proximity to his body. *North American Premiere*

Eli / U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Nate Milton) â?? A true story from the realms of high strangeness, magical thinking, and manic delusion.

Farce / Norway (Director and screenwriter: Robin Jensen) â?? A man, a woman and a meat grinder. Love is messy.

Hot Flash / Canada (Director and screenwriter: Thea Hollatz) â?? Ace is having a hot flash, and sheâ??s about to go live on local television. How one woman tries to keep her cool when one type of flash leads to another. *International Premiere*



/ U.S.A. (Director and screenwriter: Bernardo Britto) â?? A goose remembers his last migration. *World Premiere.* **DAY ONE**
InÃ¨s / France and Switzerland (Director and screenwriter: Ã?lodie Dermange) â?? InÃ¨s is facing a difficult choice. Tonight, she thinks about the decision she will make. *North American Premiere*

My Juke-Box / France (Director and screenwriter: Florentine Grelier) â?? Yesterday, I overheard an old rock â??nâ?? roll song that sounded familiar. This is probably the music that we used to listen to on my dadâ??s mechanical devicesâ??the thousand lives man, the king of the jukebox. *International Premiere*

No, I Donâ??t Want to Dance! / United Kingdom (Director and screenwriter: Andrea Vinciguerra) â?? In these dark times, you may think that every hazard has been identified, but nobody has taken into consideration how dangerous dance can beâ?¦

Sh_t Happens / Czech Republic, Slovakia, France (Directors and screenwriters: Michaela Mihalyi, David Å tumpf) â?? The caretaker exhausted by everything, his frustrated wife, and one totally depressed deer. Their mutual despair leads them to absurd events, becauseâ?¦ shit happens all the time. *U.S. Premiere*

Slug Life / United Kingdom (Director and Screenwriter: Sophie Koko Gate) â?? A day in the life of Tanya, a curious woman who has developed a taste for non human lovers. Her next creation: a giant slug. Can such a perfect creature survive in this gnarly world full of freaks and beefs?

Takoyaki Story / Japan (Director and screenwriter: Sawako Kabuki) â?? Always attracted to takoyakiâ??octopus balls, a famous Japanese street foodâ??a girl tries them for the first time and becomes addicted.

Wong Pingâ??s Fables 2 / Hong Kong (Director and Screenwriter: Ping Wong) â?? Wong Ping urinates twice before gently pressing your head down with his right foot, giving you a closer look at your own reflection in his urine.

Wood Child and Hidden Forest Mother / United Kingdom (Director and screenwriter: Stephen Irwin) â?? Deep in the forest, a hunter encounters a strange creature he cannot kill. *World Premiere*

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The Sundance Film Festival has introduced global audiences to some of the most groundbreaking films of the past three decades, including *Sorry to Bother You*, *Wonâ??t You Be My Neighbor?*, *Eighth Grade*, *Get Out*, *The Big Sick*, *Mudbound*, *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, *Fruitvale Station*, *Whiplash*, *Brooklyn*, *Precious*, *The Cove*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *An Inconvenient Truth*, *Napoleon Dynamite*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Reservoir Dogs* and *sex, lies, and videotape*. The Festival is a program of the non-profit Sundance InstituteÂ®. 2020 Festival sponsors include: Presenting Sponsors â?? Acura, SundanceTV, Chase Sapphire; AT&T; Leadership Sponsors â?? Adobe, Amazon Studios, DIRECTV, Dropbox, Netflix, Omnicom Group, Southwest AirlinesÂ®, Stella Artois**Â®**, WarnerMedia; Sustaining

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Sundance Institute
Founded in 1981 by Robert Redford, Sundance Institute is a nonprofit organization that provides and preserves the space for artists in film, theatre, and media to create and thrive. The Instituteâ??s signature Labs, granting, and mentorship programs, dedicated to developing new work, take place throughout the year in the U.S. and internationally. Sundance Co//ab, a digital community platform, brings artists together to learn from each other and Sundance Advisors and connect in a creative space, developing and sharing works in progress. The Sundance Film Festival and other public programs connect audiences and artists to ignite new ideas, discover original voices, and build a community dedicated to independent storytelling. Sundance Institute has supported such projects as *The Farewell, Late Night, The Souvenir, The Infiltrators, Sorry to Bother You, Eighth Grade, Wonâ??t You Be My Neighbor?, Hereditary, RBG, Call Me By Your Name, Get Out, The Big Sick, Top of the Lake, Winterâ??s Bone, Dear White People, Little Miss Sunshine, Beasts of the Southern Wild*, *Fruitvale Station, State of the Union, Indecent, Spring Awakening*, *A Gentlemanâ??s Guide to Love and Murder* and *Fun Home*. Join Sundance Institute on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube.

(Source: Sundance press release)

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hollywoodglee